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A modern chant is a sort of short-hand for many notes, and it is unfortunate that the varying sounds can only be expressed by notes which convey to the mind *time* as well as *pitch*; but as in recitative, chanting should not be subject to rhythmical laws; it is the *prose* of music, and forms the opposite to measured music, which answers to poetry or verse.—*Ed. M. T.*

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. P. C. C., Wolverhampton, is answered by post.

A minor, Aberdeen.—*It would be much better to take the small additional pains to teach some of your female voices to sing the 2nd Trebles of "Flora gave me" and "Maidens fair of Padua's city," than to give the parts to 1st Tenors as you proposed. It would be a step to accomplish many other Madrigals, and inverting the parts is always dangerous.*

A. C. S., Wakefield.—*The full score of Haydn's "Creation" was received by Mr. J. Ashley, on the 22nd of March, 1800, at 9 o'clock, p. m., brought by a King's messenger from Vienna; it was translated, copied into parts for 120 performers, rehearsed and produced at Covent Garden Theatre on Friday, March 28th, (6 days).*

H. J., Malvern.—*We have often been asked the proper pronunciation of Wind in singing, but know of no rule. It has been said,—*

*"I had in my mind,  
To call it the wind,  
But doubting,—rescind,  
And call it the wind."*

M. A., Flint, should consult a good musical grammar, by which he will learn the construction of Chords generally.

E. K., Derbyshire.—*The Madrigal you name is the copyright of a Firm who do not encourage cheap editions, and therefore it is not likely to be printed in a popular form.*

J. S., Blyth.—*The natural resolution of the chord of the dominant seventh, is for the seventh to descend and the third to ascend. In various positions of this chord, when the bass ascends into the chord into which the seventh should resolve, the seventh is permitted to ascend. Examples of the exceptions to the general rule, should be sought for in the works of the classical composers.*

#### Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

DEATH OF MR. G. H. RODWELL.—We have to announce the death of this popular composer. The cause of his demise in middle life is attributed to an acute attack of gout. Mr. Rodwell will be favourably remembered by our readers for his exceedingly clever ballads, some of which have attained great popularity. As a melodist he held a high place amongst modern composers. He was a man of kindly disposition; ever ready to extend a helping hand to his more unfortunate brethren. Mr. Rodwell, who was a pupil of Sir Henry Bishop and Vincent Novello, married, in early life, the daughter of the late Mr. Liston. He was formerly proprietor of the Adelphi theatre.

ROYAL SOCIETY.—Mr. Ireland has been appointed secretary *pro tem.* of this society, *vice* Mr. Wood, who has retired for awhile to recruit his health.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—A *soiree musicale* was held on the 11th December. A short, but well-arranged programme served to exhibit the talents of the institution. The *soiree* was attended by many of our best musicians; amongst whom was a large number of former pupils.

MONTHLY CONCERTS.—Mr. Hullah's second season of concerts under this title commenced on the 21st of January. The following works are announced for performance during the season:—Handel's Cantata, "Alexander's Feast;" Leslie's Festival Anthem, "Let God arise;" a new Cantata, "Leonora," by Mr. Macfarren; Mendelssohn's "Ninety-fifth Psalm." The orchestra is well adapted to give full effect to Mr. Hullah's intentions.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The fortieth season of this society will commence on the 15th March. The succeeding concerts will take place in the following order:—March 29th; April 19th; May 3rd, 17th, and 31st; June 14th, and 28th.

"LEONORA."—Mr. Macfarren's cantata bearing this title, which was announced for performance under the baton of Mr. Hullah, at St. Martin's Hall, on the 21st, was withdrawn suddenly and unexpectedly at the last moment.

MADLLE. JENNY LIND.—There appears to be good ground for expecting the arrival of this distinguished singer, from America, early in February.

NATHAN MENDELSSOHN, the youngest son of Moses Mendelssohn, the philosopher, died recently. He was uncle to the distinguished musician, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy.

CARL ECKERT.—A new opera by Carl Eckert has been produced at Berlin with great success; it is called *Guillaume d'Orange*, and will shortly be produced at Frankfort for Madame Sontag.

DEATH OF LUIGI RICCI.—This well known composer, who was on his way to superintend the performance of his opera at St. Petersburg, died on the road.

PARIS.—Ernst and Herz have been giving concerts at Paris, where Halevy's new opera is expected shortly to be produced.

GLEE AND MADRIGAL UNION.—The brilliant success which has attended the career of the members of the Glee and Madrigal Union, must be a source of real gratification to all admirers of this truly English style of composition. The most flattering accounts have appeared in the provincial papers of their recent tour. A second series commenced at Willis's Rooms on the 19th, at which the following glees were sung:—W. Horsley's "By Celia's Arbour;" Stevens's "Ye Spotted Snakes;" J. S. Smith's "Blest pair of Sirens;" S. Webbe's "When winds breathe soft;" Bishop's "Blow gentle gales;" Arne and Bishop's "Under the greenwood tree;" Dr. Cooke's "Hand in hand." There were three encores. In the second part, a selection from the works of the old masters was given.

CECILIAN SOCIETY.—Mr. Shoubridge has been appointed conductor to the concerts of this society. The first performance of *Elijah* was attended with so successful a result, that it will be repeated on the 5th proximo.

ENGAGEMENTS have been made for the Birmingham Festival, under Mr. Costa, which will take place on the 7th September, and three following days.

THE ALDERSGATE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—The second annual performance of this society took place on the 24th December. The *Messiah* was the oratorio selected. Mr. Essex was the conductor; and Mr. W. H. Essex presided at the organ.

THE NORWICH FESTIVAL is appointed to be held in the Autumn of the present year.

CLAYLANDS CHORAL SOCIETY.—On the 19th of January, this society met in the school-room of Claylands Chapel, Kennington, and performed a selection of sacred and secular music, under the direction of Mr. W. Packington. The choir went with the utmost precision—a fact proved by the madrigals being generally re-demanded. The principal part of the copies used were from the *Musical Times*, a fact we were glad to observe, because the general adoption of such a plan proves the usefulness of our publication.

NEW MUSICAL SOCIETY.—On the 9th January, the choir of Deverell-street Wesleyan Chapel, Dover-road, met for the formation of a society for the practice of sacred music, instrumental and vocal. Mr. Bates submitted a code of rules to the meeting, which were unanimously adopted. A managing committee, with a treasurer, secretary, and Mr. Peter Parker, jun., as conductor, were elected. On the Wednesday evening following the 13th, the committee met, when it was decided that in addition to the music already in the possession of the choir, Handel's *Messiah*, and selections from Mozart's *Twelfth Mass*, should be purchased for the use of the society. At present the members number about fifty.

THE POPULAR AMATEUR MUSICAL SOCIETY gave a very satisfactory performance of the *Messiah*, on the 9th December, and, owing to the crowded attendance, repeated the oratorio on the 23rd. The *Creation* is in rehearsal.

THE CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY, which was established in November last, gave its first public rehearsal on the 13th January. The Rev. J. B. Gabriel occupied the chair. Several madrigals, trios, quartets, part-songs, &c., were executed in a manner, which proves how much may be accomplished when energy and perseverance are brought to bear upon a laudable cause. The rehearsal took place under the direction of Mr. E. T. Evans.

BURY.—The *Messiah* was performed in the large hall of the new Athenæum, on the 26th of December; the principal vocalists were Mrs. Sunderland, Mr. Bednal, Mr. Wrigley, and Mr. Brooke; leader, Mr. Hacking, conductor, Mr. Banks.

NEWCASTLE.—A new society has just been established called the "Newcastle and Gateshead Sacred Harmonic Society." At the meeting a code of rules was adopted, which stipulates that at least two yearly concerts shall take place; officers were appointed, and some routine business transacted. It is contemplated to commence with the *Messiah*. A vote of thanks was respectively passed to Mr. J. G. Penman, and Mr. J. J. Harrison.

ST. ASAPH.—On New Year's Day, a public meeting was held in the Boys' National School Room, St. Asaph, on the occasion of the presentation to Mr. Atkins of his portrait, which had been executed for the members of the Cathedral Choir by the clever artist, Mr. Cambria Jones. The proceedings of the day were opened by Mr. Roberts, the senior lay-clerk, being voted to the chair, and he then called upon Mr. Partington to read an address, which had been previously agreed upon. Mr. Atkins briefly expressed his acknowledgement of the honour; after which, several glees were sung, and the proceedings closed with the National Anthem.

BRISTOL.—The Madrigal Society had a meeting on the 15th. It was the first "ladies' night" of the season, the attendance was of a first-rate kind. The choir comprised 22 trebles, and about 65 altos, tenors, and basses. Several of the most approved madrigals were skilfully sung. The company amounted in number to about fifteen hundred.

THE NORTHAMPTON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY gave a performance on the 19th of January, at the Music Hall Exchange, when the members were assisted by the Misses A. and M. Byers; Mr. Howard was the leader, and Mr. H. Barker, who presided at the harmonium, conductor. The *Messiah* was given with a precision that deserves commendation.

BELFAST.—A new society, called "The Belfast Classical Harmonists' Society," will shortly give a "Mendelssohn Festival;" the performance will include a selection from *Ædipus*, on which occasion the Earl of Belfast has consented to play two of his solos for the pianoforte.

BICKERSTAFFE.—On the 6th of January, a private performance was given; the selections were made from the music published in our Journal. The principal vocalists were Misses M. Reynolds, Watts, Fildon, Messrs. Abram and Venables.

THE SHEPTON Mallet HARMONIC SOCIETY gave their fourth concert at the Argyle Rooms, Shepton Mallet; the room was filled by a respectable audience. Overtures by Rossini, Donizetti, and Bishop, were effectually rendered; Mr. Rumsey led the band. The society are much indebted to Messrs. Gleaves, Wix, and Oxley, for the assistance they rendered in the vocal parts.

The members of the ECKINGTON CHORAL SOCIETY performed the *Messiah* on the 5th of January, in the large School-room, under the direction of Mr. E. Keeton, organist of the parish church. All the glees and madrigals were sung from "*The Musical Times*." Nearly twenty pounds were realized, after paying all expenses; the object being a charitable one.

CONCERTS FOR THE PEOPLE.—The *Bath and Cheltenham Gazette* states that "the mayor has taken the initiative in launching a suggestion for offering to the working classes of this city a series of cheap concerts, in the noble banqueting room of the Guildhall. The project was first broached at a festive party, consisting chiefly of members of the Town Council, who had assembled at the Mayor's residence. A committee was forthwith formed, and to Mr. Milsom, who happened to be present, and who is, we believe, the only professional musician in the council, was entrusted the somewhat delicate task of revising the programmes, and making the other necessary arrangements."

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